(c) To supplement the efforts of the State Government to strengthen the infrastructure of the State Commission and District Forums, a One-Time Grant of Rs. 270 lakhs was provided by the Central Government to the State of Andhra Pradesh during the year 1995—97.

Road Transportation Charges

186. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has represented to the Central Government for allowing actual road transportation charges in respect of lifting of levy sugar under sugar price equalization fund;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering the proposal; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government of Gujarat represented to the Central Government regarding reimbursement of actual road transportation charges. The State Government has been informed, *inter-alia*, that Central Government has revised the margin guidelines on 4-11-1996 and, as per these guidelines, the transportation charges with effect from 1-4-1996 are being reimbursed at a flat rate for each State to be fixed on the basis of audited figures of expenditure duly approved by the State Government concerned incurred for the previous year.

Allocation of free rice to Andhra Pradesh

187. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether allocation of free of cost rice was made by Government to Andhra Pradesh under Food for Work Programme to contain prevailing drought conditions in the State during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;